

fanatic, named John Schrank, who was shown by papers found on his person to be of unbalanced mind, and to have been following Eoosevelt about the country for some time seeking a favorable opportunity to shoot him. In a sort of diary, among these papers, were entries in which Schrank said McKinley had appeared to him and told him that Eoosevelt was his murderer. Another entry showed that some of the campaign talk against Roosevelt as a candidate for a third term had affected his crazy brain, for it read: "Any man looking for a third term ought to be shot." When he was arraigned in court in Milwaukee, on November 12, 1912, he showed very clearly that this was the case, for when asked how he would plead he replied: "Why, guilty. I did not mean to kill a citizen, Judge; I shot Theodore Eoosevelt because he was a menace to the country. He should not have a third term. I did not want him to have one. I shot him as a warning that men must not try to have more than two terms as President." Could there be furnished stronger evidence than this that violent denunciation of public men, in the press and on the stump, incites assassination by inducing persons of unbalanced minds to attempt it in the crazy belief that they are thereby doing a public service? The assassinations of Lincoln, G-arfield and McKinley were directly traceable to this source.

The court appointed a commission of five alienists to examine Schrank and report on his mental condition. They reported on November 22 that he was insane

and he was
committed to an asylum for the insane for an
indefinite
period.

Several letters that Eoosevelt wrote at the
time and sub-
sequently contain exceedingly interesting
observations upon
the natural conduct of men in like situations:

November 15,
1912.

*To the Rt. Eon. Sir Edward Grey, Foreign
Office, London:*

"I am a little amused, my dear fellow, at your
saying that
the account of the shooting stirred you with a
curiosity to
know whether, if the experience had been
yours, you would